

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, the Specification and claims 4 and 10 have been amended and new claim 13 has been added. Claims 1-13 are pending and under consideration. Claims 1-3 are allowed.

OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Claim 4 has been amended to overcome the objection thereto.

Claim 10 and page 7 of the Specification have been amended to overcome the new matter objection. Support for these amendments is found, for example, in FIG.1.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claim 4 has been amended to overcome the rejection thereto.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 4-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Mauletti

Using independent claim 4 as an example, this claim recites the second member is fixed to the rotating member.

According to the Examiner, the second member 33 of Mauletti is fixed to the rotating member 47. Office Action, p. 3. Applicants respectfully disagree. Since the body 33 of Mauletti (relied upon by the Examiner as corresponding to the claimed second member) rotatably supports the shaft 47 (relied upon by the Examiner as corresponding to the claimed rotating member) through a bearing and speed reducer, the body 33 is not fixed to the shaft 47. Specifically, column 4, lines 6-8 of the reference state that "[a]t the opposite end of arm 10, structure 33 rotatably supports a shaft 47 around axis 3 by means of taper roller bearings 46"

Independent claim 4 also recites that the first member is fixed to the casing. According to the Examiner, the first member 11 of Mauletti is fixed to the casing 50. Office Action, p. 3. Applicants respectfully disagree. The lid 50 of Mauletti (relied upon by the Examiner as corresponding to the claimed casing) is provided on a side of the body 33 (relied upon by the Examiner as corresponding to the claimed second member), and thus is not fixed to the body 11 (relied upon by the Examiner as corresponding to the claimed first member).

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

New claim 12 is patentably distinguishable from the cited reference at least due to its dependency from claim 4.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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